IN THE INDIANA TAX COURT

NO.49T10-9309-TA-70

TOWN OF ST. JOHN, et al.,)
Petitioners,)
v.)
STATE BOARD OF TAX COMMISSIONERS,)
Respondents.)
)

STATE BOARD'S TWELFTH MONTHLY REPORT

This is the State Board of Tax Commissioners' twelfth monthly report under the Court's order dated May 31, 2000, 729 N.E.2d 242, 247. The report explains the State Board's activities during May 2001 to implement the Court's order. An outline of these activities is included as Exhibit A.

Overall Schedule

The State Board's First Monthly Report contained a proposed schedule for adopting a new assessment rule consistent with the Court's order. The Board's activities during May 2001 are in accordance with that schedule, and the State Board expects to maintain that schedule and meet the deadlines within it.

New Rules For Assessment

New rules for assessing property as of March 1, 2002, are now in place in compliance with the Tax Court's Order of May 31,2000. 50 IAC 2.3-1-1. On May 4, 2001, the State Board of Tax Commissioners recalled the Manual to make technical corrections requested by the Attorney General. The Board subsequently readopted the Manual on May 10, 2001. The Attorney General approved the readopted Manual [LSA Doc. # 00-108(F)] and forwarded it to the Governor on May 15,2001. The Governor signed the Manual on May 22,2001 and filed it with the Secretary of State on May 23, 2001.

During May, the Assessment Division also began implementation of its plan to receive bids for the printing of the new assessment manual. The plans anticipate field representatives delivering copies to county and -township assessors in late June.

Work with Assessors

The Board's Assessment Division field representatives began reporting and compiling preliminary results of the survey of assessing officials. Not all counties and townships have yet responded. A spreadsheet of the survey results is being developed.

The Assessor Advisory Group met on May 24 to discuss the preliminary results of the survey of assessing officials, pending reassessment issues, equalization and other reassessment related matters.

Computer Software

The Board's General Counsel met with computer software providers to discuss the manual and reassessment concerns on may 25.

Statutory Issues

In the First Monthly Report, the State Board identified statutes with which it will be unable to comply under the timetable for promulgating a new assessment rule. During May 2001, the State Board has identified no additional provisions with which it will be unable to comply.

Respectfully submitted,

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